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Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council on 22 June 2017

35/14. Youth and human rights

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolution 32/1 of 30 June 2016 on youth and human rights,

Recalling further all previous relevant resolutions, including the most recent, namely, General Assembly resolution 70/127 of 17 December 2015 on policies and programmes involving youth, and Assembly resolution 50/81 of 14 December 1995, by which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, in which it is stated that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] and reaffirming the need to develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere real opportunities to enable their full, effective and meaningful participation in society,

Welcoming also the high-level event held by the General Assembly on 29 May 2015 to mark the twentieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, which offered an important opportunity for Member States and other relevant stakeholders to take

[1] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

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stock of progress made in its implementation, as well as to identify gaps and challenges and the way forward for its full, effective and accelerated implementation,

Taking note of the summary on the expert meeting organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in July 2013, in which it was recognized that young people experience difficulties in the exercise of their rights by virtue of being young and that there are gaps in the protection and fulfilment of the human rights of youth,

Welcoming the convening at the thirty-third session of the Human Rights Council of the panel discussion on youth and human rights, at which challenges were identified for the empowerment of young people in the exercise of their rights,

Noting the Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law convened by the Human Rights Council on 21 and 22 November 2016, with the theme "Widening the democratic space: the role of youth in public decision-making",

Encouraging contributions by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special procedures and the treaty bodies, as well as the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth and other relevant international and regional human rights mechanisms in identifying and addressing obstacles to the enjoyment of all human rights by youth,

Underlining the important role that youth can play in the promotion of peace, sustainable development and human rights, and the importance of the active and wide participation of youth in decision-making,

Conscious that today's generation of youth is the largest that the world has ever witnessed, and therefore encouraging States to exert further efforts to ensure the respect, protection and fulfilment of all human rights for young people, including all economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, given that lack of participation and opportunity has adverse consequences for communities and societies,

Concerned that young people face specific challenges that require integrated responses by States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the summary report of the panel discussion on youth and human rights prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[2] which summarizes the growing challenges that disproportionately affect the current generation of young people, and nonetheless draws attention to the crucial role that young people play in realizing human rights, peace and sustainable development;

2. *Calls upon* all States to promote and ensure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for youth, including, where appropriate, by taking measures to combat age discrimination, neglect, abuse and violence, and to address issues related to barriers to social integration and adequate participation, bearing in mind that the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by young people empowers them to contribute as active members of society to the political, civil, economic, social and cultural development of their countries;

3. *Encourages* all States to conduct their coherent youth-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners in the interest of developing effective and comprehensive policies, as well in the development of their national action plans to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

[2] A/HRC/35/7.

4. *Urges* Member States to consider addressing, through the universal periodic review and the treaty bodies, issues pertaining to the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights for youth, and to share the best practices that they have developed in dealing with the realization of human rights for young people;

5. *Requests* the High Commissioner, in consultation with and taking into account the views of States and relevant stakeholders, including relevant United Nations agencies, the treaty bodies, the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, national human rights institutions, civil society and representatives of youth organizations, to conduct a detailed study on the implementation of human rights with regard to young people, the identification of cases of discrimination against young people in the exercise of their human rights, and best practices in the full and effective enjoyment of human rights by young people, highlighting the contribution of empowered youth to the realization of human rights in society, to be submitted to the Council prior to its thirty-ninth session;

6. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

35th meeting
22 June 2017

[Adopted without a vote.]